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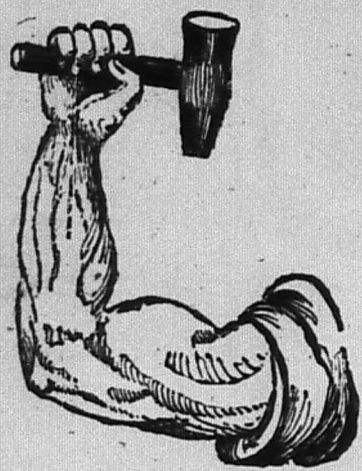
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VOL. VIII.—NO. 4.

NEW YORK, APRIL 24, 1898.

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FOR THE 100,000.

Kansas City's, Mo., Hammer Hits Hard and Makes Experience.

KANSAS CITY, April 12.—A week has passed since the municipal election, and the smoke of battle has begun to clear so we can begin to see "where we are at." What the S. L. P. vote is cannot yet be determined. The morning after the election we started in with 112 for our candidate for Mayor. On the school ticket, however, we made a great increase. The vote for President in 1896 was 27. The vote for school directors in 1898 is 1,322, or over 6 per cent. of the total cast for school directors—a gain of 5,000 per cent. in two years is certainly most encouraging. Our general ticket has been growing ever since the morning after election, and where it will end up we are still in the dark. The Socialists are slow but sure.

To begin with, the vote first reported, 112, was so far out we had no trouble in finding people in any precinct in the city who had not been counted. We began making preparations for a siege of the Election Commissioners' office with affidavits and other evidence. The official count, however, kindly gave us 303 for the head of the ticket, with 350 more or less with other candidates. We have told the Election Commissioners they must find 800 or 900 for us some way or other, so to-day we presented evidence that in the First Precinct of the First Ward as a beginning there were 8 or 10 votes suppressed. The Commissioner inspected the returns made by the judges, but could not find them. He then looked up the original tally sheets, and, sure enough, we had the votes, but the judges had failed to foot them up and return them to the Board. They at once decided they would have to investigate the original tally sheets in all the 128 precincts of Greater Kansas City. So it will be another week, doubtless, before we shall know our true vote on the general ticket. In any event we have made a gain from 12 to 20 fold in the last two years, which will do as a starter. The boys are all going to work harder than ever, and next fall we hope to give THE PEOPLE a report from this Congressional district which will make the "New York crowd" get a hustle on themselves to beat—and greatly help toward the 100,000.

If the elections in other places are conducted in as easy, happy-go-lucky disregard for all law and regulations as this last one in Kansas City, the wonder is we ever learn of Socialist votes being cast at all. A few of the breaks made by the old party election officers it might be well to chronicle in THE PEOPLE that Socialists elsewhere may be on to some of the glaring imperfections, and checkmate them.

In short, the election law here requires separate ballots for the different parties of same size and color. A full set of tickets should be presented to every voter, who fixes them in a booth, folding the ticket he votes so no one can see the face; also the tickets he rejects are treated in the same way and put into a box for rejected ballots, so that no one can examine the faces. A few of the little flaws in the carrying out of this programme are here noted. In several precincts there were no Socialist ballots offered to the voters. One Republican is willing to make affidavit he received none in his precinct. In another precinct the judge carefully unfolded all the rejected ballots in the presence of the voter so as to see the face, and then refolded them and put them in the rejected ballot box. Not much secret ballot there. In another instance the judges had been asking the voters all day which ticket they wanted; lots of secret ballot about that. In fact the whole business is full of defects and opportunities for cheating, and no one could tell the difference.

A few words as to the campaign. This is the first the militant Socialists have made in Kansas City. We labored under a great many difficulties, being new to the work—we have made many mistakes. Considering our inexperience, we have done a good deal of work. We have distributed 35,900 leaflets all over the city. We arranged a few hastily gotten up meetings in the last days of the campaign. The attendance at the meetings Sunday before election, in spite of a downpour of rain, was very good. A great deal of the work done in this campaign will show forth later, especially the distribution of literature. One thing, we got considerable "notice" from the press: With the exception of the Kansas City "Star," they all noticed us "favorably or unfavorably." The Kansas City "World," 40,000 circulation, offered all three candidates for Mayor 500 words apiece in their editor-

ial columns to put their respective sides before the people. Neither of the old parties accepted, though the Democrats promised to but failed to show up. We furnished copy every day, and thus put our side before the people. We also challenged both old parties to joint debate. No notice was taken of that by the Republicans: the Democrats answered voluminously stating in effect they were "on the same road" as we, and they therefore could not see as there was anything for debate between us. It was too late to utilize their answer in the campaign. Next time we hope to give them all more chance, and if they don't come to time, be in a position to use the challenge for campaign purposes. Now the campaign is over we are making moves to perfect the organization all over the city. Kansas City has entered this fight to win. The next campaign is already begun. To all Sections elsewhere we say: "On with the dance; let joy be unrestrained." We propose to be in with you at the finish.

KANSAS CITY SECTION, S. L. P.

PROGRESS AND POVERTY.

As Illustrated by the Paper Mills of Holyoke, Mass., and Elsewhere.

HOLYOKE, Mass., April 19.—Discussion threshes out truth. This was well proven at a recent meeting of Section Holyoke when the question was debated: "To what extent has labor-displacing machinery been introduced into the paper mills of Holyoke within the last twenty years?"

The occasion for this debate was the following incident:

A young man, in the hearing of a number of people, had, a few days previous, made the observation: "It seems strange to me that there are so many people hanging around the streets apparently out of work when all the mills in this city are running full time."

A Socialist, and member of the Socialist Labor party, answered that the reason for this state of affairs was to be found in that labor-displacing machinery was doing the work of the men, and these were idle as a consequence.

A Democrat then chimed in, saying: "This is not so; there has been no new machinery put in the paper mills of this city for the past 15 years; I have worked in the mills and know it."

A lively debate ensued right then and there. The Democrat was asked the question: "How is it that the paper mills of this city turn out ten times as much paper to-day as they did twenty years ago?" to which the Democrat answered: "They speeded up the machines!" "The people have to work quicker and harder." "The raw material is being treated in a more economical manner," etc., etc.

Recognizing from all this that a little more light upon that subject would do no harm, the incident was made the occasion for the above mentioned debate. It proved highly interesting and instructive.

Holyoke being the chief centre of the paper-making trade (there are 24 large paper mills here, employing 3,260 hands), our comrades, of whom quite a number are papermakers, naturally took special interest in the debate, and brought several friends of theirs, who are also expert papermakers, to the meeting.

One of the comrades had secured figures from the Parsons' paper mill, which is representative in every respect on the subject under debate. The Parsons' Paper Co. was organized in 1853 with a capital stock of \$60,000. It manufactures fine writing paper, bond, ledger, envelope, etc. In 1880 this company employed 250 hands, and its payroll amounted to \$9,000 per month, or an average \$36 per hand; the average product per hand being 80 pounds of paper per day.

In 1896 this same company employed 325 hands, the payroll being \$10,000 per month—an average of \$30.76 cents per hand, with a daily average product of 92 1/2 pounds per hand.

This, then, is the picture of progress in the paper mills of Holyoke. The average product per hand has been increased from 80 pounds to 92 1/2 pounds while the payroll has decreased from \$36 per month to \$30.76.

The company "saves" \$20544 per year on the wages' account of the people who do the work.

In "speeding up" the machines of this mill, the labor of 51 hands is being "saved."

The water and steam power of this mill has been tripled inside of thirteen years, while the papermaking machines have been increased one-fourth only.

The figures from the mills producing "newsprint" are still more startling. Testimony being produced from several leading mills of the country, including Dalton, Bellows-Falls and Fort Edwards.

One of our comrades, who is a foreman in a large mill, made the statement that the reasons why the paper mills of to-day can produce ten times as much paper as they did twenty years ago lies in the fact that numerous minor improvements have been made, such as improved wire guards, suction boxes, felt, drying facilities, etc. This and the fact that the machines have been widened from 75 inches to 160 inches made it possible to run the machines at such lightning speed. Twenty years ago it was thought a big thing to run out 144 feet of paper per minute, while now even the commonest machines run out 244 feet per minute, while the latest machines, at Fort Edwards, run out 502 feet per minute.

Thus the discussion between one of our S. L. P. men and a Democrat brought out the square four-jointed truth on the subject, establishing the fact that improved methods of production—where the improvement be through new and better machinery, or otherwise—bring, under capitalism, the absurd condition of increased wealth going hand in hand with increased poverty for the worker.

ADDRESS

Of Section Minneapolis on the Cuban Question.

Cuba, Still a Possession of Spain. Thanks only to our American Capitalist Government's Conduct, is Now to be Used as a Pretext for Spoilation and Further Capitalist Investments.

Fellow Workers:—In the midst of the present clamor of jingoism and self-styled patriots, we ask your candid attention to a few words on the question of the Cuban war agitation from the standpoint of the wage-working class. Cuba has been held and ruled by the Spanish government for the benefit of Spanish capitalists. This rule has been oppressive to the Cubans, and a part of the Cuban people have risen up in arms to establish their independence. Let no one, however, be deceived into thinking that the success of the insurrection would bring freedom to the Cuban workers. The insurgents have not proposed to abolish capitalism. They have promised to "respect the sacred rights of property." The insurrection, if successful, would result in freeing the Cuban workers from thralldom to Spanish capitalists, only to make them the servants of capitalism in their own island. So far the struggle is one in which the class-conscious workers of the United States, of Spain, or even of Cuba have no direct interest.

But American capitalists have an interest in the conflict. Their investments in Spanish securities were threatened by the insurrection. Therefore, when the Cuban insurgents asked, not for aid, not for recognition even, but merely that the United States should remain neutral, this government, servile to capitalist interest, answered their plea by sending revenue cutters to prevent the insurgents from buying arms or enlisting men in this country. Thus, by American aid, Spanish rule in Cuba has been maintained.

But the situation is now changed. The organs of capitalism are demanding war against Spain. What is their motive? Is it sympathy for Cuba? This is but a pretense, for the jingoes of to-day were but yesterday holding up the hands of Spain. Is it devotion to the flag and indignation at the destruction of the Maine? The destruction of the Maine was an atrocious crime. But capitalism daily commits equal atrocities against the workers, under every flag it calls on us to worship. The flag which was polluted at Homestead, at Coeur d'Alene, at Chicago, and at Hazelton is no longer the emblem of liberty.

A part of our capitalists, led by Mark Hanna, still desire peace for the sake of their bonds. The rest are ready for war for the following reasons:

First—A part of them wish for annexation, that they may extend their field of exploitation.

Second—A part of them hope to fill their purses by rich contracts and profitable speculation in case of war.

Third—Others wish to force a new issue of United States bonds.

Fourth—All agree in wanting a strong navy to protect the foreign interests of American capitalism.

Fifth—All agree in wanting a strong army to keep down the workers at home.

Sixth—All agree in wishing to cultivate a sentiment of jingoistic patriotism.

Seventh—All agree in welcoming any agitation which will distract the attention of the workers from their real interests.

Such are the motives of our capitalist jingoes.

Such can never be the motives of the wage-workers.

We, as proletarian revolutionists, hold the following position:

The Cubans have a right to independence; but war is not necessary to secure this; Cuba would already be independent if the government had held off its hands. As for the war now proposed: If war comes, its burden will fall upon the workers in this country and in Spain. Its fruits will be enjoyed by the capitalists in both countries. Our comrades, the Socialists of Spain, have denounced war. Let us join hands with them. Let us avenge the crimes of capitalism at home. Let us establish real liberty, not only its forms. And let us not be led into battle to shoot each other for the glory and profit of our masters.

By order of Section Minneapolis, S. L. P.

April 10, 1898.

P. S.—The appearance of President McKinley's message, since the above date, perhaps warrants me in making this note, on my own responsibility, in order to point out how completely his course justifies the position taken in this address. The President's policy of armed intervention is not founded on the Maine disaster nor on the sufferings, though both of these are cited as incidental justifications. The avowed object is to protect American commercial interests in Cuba, and to put an end to conditions which inflict great loss on American investors. The President does not propose to recognize the Cuban Republic. He proposes merely to oust the Spaniards and to impose such conditions as may suit American interests. His watchword is to be, not "Cuba for the Cubans," but "Cuba for the Americans." Thus the prediction of the Cuban Junta is amply fulfilled. The insurgents are likely to find in their pretended friend only a more genteel enemy in disguise. With characteristic hypocrisy the President disavows any intention of conquest as being offensive to our code of morals. (What will the Mexicans say, remembering Guadalupe Hidalgo?) It seems the Cubans are not to be coerced, but only put under the necessity of voluntarily accepting American domination.

ALGERNON LEE, Organizer, Sec. Minneapolis, S. L. P. April 12, 1898.

CAREFUL LANGUAGE.

Essential in These Days of General Confusion.

Those Who Realize the Impotence of Old Trade Unionism Must Guard Against Language that Might Promote the Error that New Trade Unionism Would be Equally Impotent.

The below letter merits publication, applause, but also a warning comment: Boot and Shoe Workers' Union, Local Union No. 32.

Lynn, Mass., April 13, 1898.

Carrie E. McPhail, Lowell, Mass.:

Dear Madam and Sister Worker:—Yours, of April 4th, asking for financial aid for the men and women who are on strike at the shoe factory of J. M. Stover, of Lowell, Mass., received and placed before our meeting last night. The union instructed me to call your attention to several self-evident truths which we are considering here, and kindly request that you read the same before a meeting of your people and ask their serious consideration of the same.

We are forced to admit that the majority of strikes are lost, and we naturally ask, Why? and the answer is because the unemployed are so numerous, and because capital can wait and still be capital, but if the workers wait they starve, and become skeletons instead of live men. We cannot corner the labor market and hold it for a rise, because the goods are so perishable. Next, we ask, Why are the unemployed so numerous? And answer comes, Because thousands have been displaced by improved machinery. Every machine which displaces men increases the ability of the employer to grind us down, and yet every machine which lightens labor and increases the effectiveness of human exertion ought to be a blessing to the people instead of a curse.

Every machine which produces more, ought to put more and better shoes on the feet, clothes on the backs and carpets on the floors of the workers of this country. A people who own the grand inventions of modern times ought to have peace and plenty and happy homes, instead of having an army of unemployed three millions strong, who are destitute and discouraged. But we are commencing to see that while all the grand machines for reducing natural material to useful finished products EXIST AMONG US, we as a people do not OWN THEM. The small oppressive capitalist class owns them and receives the benefit of our exertion, increased and multiplied by co-operative effort and the extra out-put of the machine.

It appears to us that the first primary CAUSE of the above named effects is the private ownership of the modern tools of industry—machines, factories, in short, capital. We have further discovered that the people who own them also own (with our consent) the machinery of government, which they finally call to their aid if we make too strong a fight, and we get shot in the back, as at Hazelton, Pa.

As we review this chain of thought we come to the conclusion that the class to which we belong has been negligent of its duty, because with its large numerical voting strength it has refused to capture both—the modern tools of industry and the powers of government—to manage the same in the interest of a steadily employed, prosperous, happy people. Let us reason together, and we must surely decide that it is our duty to use every legitimate weapon against the hellish system which makes men paupers, suicides, murderers and scabs.

The most effective weapon we have got is our vote if cast unitedly for a movement which represents the above ideas. We think it will be well worth the effort to try and bring about united action of our class at the ballot box for these ideas, which are best represented by that much misunderstood word, "Socialism." While the agitation and education is going on along these lines we realize that there will be times when the heel of the oppressor will grind so hard that outraged manhood can bear it no longer, and we must strike an immediate blow, let the consequences be what they may. Such a time you are now in the midst of, and we feel proud of the effort you are making, and to make a long story short we enclose money order for \$25 to prove that we mean what we say and to give you more courage to continue the fight, hoping that the time is near when we will all unite and back up our industrial efforts with a grand political effort, which must be the sheet anchor of hope for the toiling masses of the future.

Please send receipt for money to Alex. McDonald, Box 299, Lynn, Mass.

Shall be pleased to hear from you in regard to how you are getting along.

Respectfully yours,

FRED S. CARTER, Secy.

It is, indeed, cause for applause to find in America a trade union of old standing give such evidence, as the above letter gives, of progress in the understanding of the cardinal principles of the labor movement. Between such an organization and the old style of British pure and simple union there is a deep gulf. The cause of the degradation of labor being so well understood, there is no danger of such a union hunting the pure and simple will-o'-the-wisps that have dragged the trade union down into the mire, and have wrecked the union movement. Such an organization will not be cheated by fakir leaders into expecting salvation from "high dues"—for the fakirs; or from capitalist issues. Such an organization will march with an intelligent and intelligible aim in view.

In so far such an organization cannot be too loudly applauded.

But, whether it happens from oversight or otherwise, the letter above quoted is open to serious criticism from one side. After reading it, the question forces itself to the mind, If strikes and boycotts, i. e., the economic weapons of the workmen are so useless, why have any economic organization at all, why not disband all unions, build up no new ones, and organize exclusively into the political party of labor—the Socialist Labor party?

Neither the numerousness and increasing number of the unemployed; nor the power of Capital to wait, while Labor cannot wait without starving; nor Labor's incapacity to corner the Labor-market;—no, none of these, separate or together, nor many more of that sort are sufficient to explain the decline of the power of a labor union, or the increasing impotence of the economic movement. THE fundamental reason of the present impotence of the union is that the large majority of them are built upon principles that deny the sound principles set forth so masterly in the letter from Boot and Shoe Workers' Union No. 32. The denial of these principles blind the organizations, so built, upon the mechanism of the capitalist system; so blinded, they ignore and disregard their class interests; and, so ignoring and disregarding that, instead of striking out for themselves, they rendered themselves the appendages of the exploiting class. The strongest manifestation of this attitude is the political attitude taken by the bulk of the working class to-day: it divides at the polls between its employers, and thus unites, in the most effective way possible, to uphold employerdom, capitalism, which is the same as to say the system that tyrannizes over it.

Ignorant of the class-interests of the working class, the union cannot choose but become, at best, a rudderless ship. But it becomes worse than that. A rudderless ship, if left alone, might, by a happy chain of accidents, be wafted and driven safely into port. The union was not long allowed to remain a rudderless ship. Its helpless condition was quickly turned to profit by the capitalist class. IT FURNISHED AND TOOK HOLD OF THE RUDDER ITSELF. To take hold of the rudder of the union in person would have caused suspicion; the capitalist class took hold of the rudder by proxy. It blew the breath of life into the Labor Fakir, and it managed to be the captain of the union ship by managing to place the rudder into the Labor Fakir's hand. Thus the Powderleys, Comperses, Strassers, McGuire, Archbalds, Weissmans, Skeffingtons, Perkinses, Prescotts, etc., came into existence. The rudderless ship now had a rudder, and that rudder—a capitalist rudder; the rudder was in the hands of a lackey of the capitalist class—the Labor Fakir; and the union ship was steered—on the breakers, where now it lies wrecked.

For the same reason that the ship, wrecked by ignorant seamanship, cannot justly be blamed for its condition, the union cannot be blamed either. Had the union been given a Labor, instead of a Capitalist, rudder, and had the man at the helm been a representative of the intelligent and class-conscious proletariat, instead of an ignorant and corrupt Labor Fakir, it would not be the wreck it is to-day. Hence, also, a union properly ruddered and captained need not, would not, be the stranded impotence that we see the pure and simple union to be.

The trade union is not a useless thing; useful, at best, to give a blow in despair. The trade union that is built upon the principles of the class struggle cannot be wrecked. Such a union would necessarily be a class-conscious political unit. The Labor Fakir could no more exist in it than mosquitos could exist in frost. Its blows at the ballot box would make it respected and throw dismay among the capitalist class. Knowing that no heeler of capital could pull such a union from its course, and realizing that the working class, being the large majority, could conquer at the ballot box, the capitalist class would not dare to treat the workers as it does to-day, lest it spur and drive them all the more to persist on the course that means death to Capitalism. Not only would encroachments and ill-treatment not occur, needing resistance, BUT THE UNION COULD TAKE THE AGGRESSIVE AND MAKE POSITIVE CONQUESTS.

Backed by a strong and growing political party of its own class, the trade union can be a powerful shield, and MORE THAN A SHIELD. Old or British trade unionism is impotent because of its constitution, which invites pirates on board. New Trade Unionism, the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, is a potent weapon.

It is not likely that Local Union No. 32 actually means to fly to the extreme to which the wreckage of "pure and simpledom" drives so many, and underates the power of unionism for good—provided unionism is class-conscious. Join the S. T. & L. A.

Since April 1, when the 50 cent a year régime of THE PEOPLE was started, more than 2,000 subscribers have come in. That alone is a good start for three weeks; the best of it is that the number of subscriptions keep on coming in larger numbers.

A debate will take place to-day at 2 p. m., at Teutonia Hall, 16th street and 3d avenue, between the Boot and Shoe Workers' Union and the General Council of Shoemakers, or between the Old Trade Unionism and New. None but shoemakers admitted.

The numerous calls that have come in for the New Bedford speech "What Means This Strike?" published in these columns a few weeks ago, has determined the National Executive Committee to reprint it in pamphlet form. It can be had at the Labor News Company, 64 E. 4th street, this city. Single copies, 5 cents; 10 copies, 30 cents; 100 copies, \$2.50.

POT AND KETTLE.

Spanish Feudalism and American Capitalism.

Both Systems Produce "Reconcentrados." Together with all the Miseries the Word Implies; the Difference is only that the One is Unrefined, the Other is Refined in its Cannibalism.

The louder the cry grows for war with Spain, and the nearer we seem to be to hostilities, all the more preposterous does the situation become.

The pretence of war on the part of our Government is the barbarities of the existing conflict in Cuba. Our moral code, it is claimed, rebels at the sufferings of the "Reconcentrados." This claim, and the advance of this principle becomes ever stronger. It is found necessary on the part of the capitalist interests that make for war to emphasize it.

A traveler from Mars, landing on our planet at the spot where Washington is situated, would, in the innocence of his heart, imagine that our Washington Government, together with the forces that impel it, is a sort of International Avenger; a Paladin of the oppressed; a belated Knight Errant of the days of chivalry who unsheathes his sword wherever the cry of distress is heard, and goes out of his way to redress Wrong and protect Right.

One may imagine the surprise of such a traveler when he casts his eyes about and takes in the sights that on all sides would force themselves upon his optics. What he sees would warrant his looking at the terrestrial map carefully, and assure himself whether, indeed, it is upon American soil that he has landed, or whether, by some mistake, it is not Cuba that he alighted on. The "Reconcentrados" are seen all around him,—famishing figures of all ages and all sexes, premature corpses, bearing either the marks of slow and gradual starvation, or the marks of sudden death by bullet or bayonet, or mutilation by the factory machine. Our traveler, noticing such sights, on the one hand, and on the other the luxurious, bloated ease of the beneficiaries of such "Reconcentrados," must surely rub his eyes and wonder: "Am I in America, or is it Cuba I am in?"

Great as the surprise of our traveler must be when he ascertains that it is, indeed, America he is in, and not Cuba, a greater surprise awaits him. He reads the trash that is printed as our "diplomatic correspondence"; he reads not only our "diplomatic" indignation at "Spanish barbarities"; he reads also the Spanish rejoinders, etc. The keenness of our traveler's mind causes him to expect to come across some indignant Spanish denunciation of the American conditions that produce reconcentrados here. Surely, the same right that America has to rise and indignate at Spain's production of reconcentrados, Spain has to rise and indignate at the same thing here, all the more as the article is so much more extensive here. But nothing of the sort! Upon that subject Spain is mum. Why, how is that? Spain being a degree or so further back in civilization than our Government, is more ingenious; she considers it a matter of right divine to produce "reconcentrados"; capitalism, being barbarism anyhow, needs "reconcentrados," but being more sophisticated, pretends to condemn the thing.

The insight thus gained into the situation will enable our traveler to appreciate the issue, and, appreciating it, say with the Socialists: "A curse upon both your houses—feudal, unrefined cannibal Spain, and refined cannibal American Capitalism."

THE SEIDENBERG SPECTRE.

The Mills of the Gods Grind Slowly But they Grind Exceedingly Fine.

The below letter, published in the New York "Volks-Zeitung" of last Sunday, tells its own extensive tale:

"In the 'Volks-Zeitung' of the 14th instant, is a report of our union in which it endorses the action of our fellow-member Bennett.

"Although, from the communications to the 'Volks-Zeitung,' one may arrive at some other conclusion than Union 96, it is not my purpose to touch that side of the question.

"Upon the request of Bennett himself, his conduct in the affair of the Seidenberg strike was approved by our union's Executive Committee, which drafted a resolution to that effect; the resolution was submitted to our authorities at a meeting last Tuesday, the 12th, at 7 p. m., and was promptly adopted. AN HOUR LATER, THE QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING OF THE UNION WAS OPENED.

"Several of the members present felt sure that at that meeting this affair of Bennett would come up for discussion. NOTHING OF THE SORT HAPPENED.

"THE EXECUTIVE HAD NOTHING TO REPORT. The report of the delegate to the 'Volks-Zeitung' Conference' took up the whole evening, and thus it was made impossible to bring up the Bennett matter.

"At the close of the meeting, 11.45 p. m., I learned, to my great surprise from the Recording Secretary that the report upon the Bennett matter had already been adopted by our officers.

"I now ask the Executive, Is it democratic to decide so weighty a question over the heads of the members? I AM OF THE FIRM CONVICTION THAT, HAD THE MEMBERS BEEN GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO PASS UPON THE QUESTION AT THAT GENERAL MEETING, THE AFFAIR WOULD HAVE TAKEN A DIFFERENT TURN.

"At the request of several members, 'MAX HALTER,

"Member of Cigar-makers' Union No. 96."

THE PEOPLE.

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SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential).....2,068
In 1890.....12,331
In 1892 (Presidential).....21,157
In 1894.....33,133
In 1896 (Presidential).....36,564
In 1897.....55,673

Muse not which way the pen to hold,
Lusk hates the slow and loves the bold,
Soon come the darkness and the cold.

Greatly begin! though thou have time
But for a life, be that sublime—
Not failure, but low aim, is crime.
Lowell.

"AUTONOMOUS CLASSES."

Signior Toniolo, advertised from Europe as a great and good church dignitary, is the latest "apostle of the working class" who has entered the field of the Social or Labor Question under the banner of "Christian Socialism."

Signior Toniolo steps forward with a very full, a very elaborate programme to solve the Social Problem, and establish personal liberty and happiness on earth. It will be enough to consider one of Signior Toniolo's planks to form an opinion of his whole plan. It is this:

"In the political field, to make use of the present system of universal suffrage, for the election of special representatives of the working class by the side of the others in the existing parliaments, and in this way to bring influence to bear on equitable and harmonious, social and economic legislation, and, later, on the reform of the parliamentary system itself, on the basis of a standard of autonomous representation of the classes."

Autonomous representation of the classes!

The classes are marked by the power, that is, the magnitude of the means of production in their hand; and, as a result of that, by the power they have over one another.

The capitalist class is that class that holds so large a quantity of capital that it can defy competition.

The middle class is that class that holds so small a quantity of capital that it can not compete with the capitalist class.

The proletariat, or working class, is that class that is wholly stripped of capital.

This relative power, or weakness, or total absence of the weapons needed for production, that constitutes the chief mark of the classes, carries in its train certain results that add to the distinction and characteristics of the classes.

Possessed of sufficient weapons of production, the capitalist class becomes a dominant class; the existence of the middle class is made by it less and less tenable, while it can dispose absolutely over the existence of the working class, which, bereft of all means of production, cannot set in operation its labor function, therefore cannot earn a living unless allowed to by the capitalist class, and, consequently, is a dependent, a serf, if not a slave class.

The existence of classes must be predicated upon the capitalist system. This, indeed, is Signior Toniolo's idea, as it is the idea of all "Christian Socialists." But he who says capitalism, or private ownership of the machinery of production, and classes, says at the same time MASTER and SLAVE. "Autonomous classes" or "autonomous representation of the classes," is, accordingly, as senseless, as contradictory a notion as "autonomous diseases," or "autonomous representation of diseases" in the parliament of the human body;—and as a nostrum to solve the Labor Problem it is the blaziest notion yet set afloat.

"He who talks nonsense well," said the surly yet profound old Dr. Johnson, "knows that he is talking nonsense." It is of secondary importance whether, with Signior Toniolo, it is his intellect or his honesty that limps. The real point of importance worth calling attention to is the fact that just as soon as any adjective or other qualifying word is attached to SOCIALISM—whether that adjective be "Christian" or "Jew," "Democratic" or what not—the term is but a cloak, to disguise capitalist intentions; is but a sugar coating, to induce the swallowing of capitalist poison; is but a lure to entrap the unwary.

PHILIP BAUER AS A SPECIMEN.

Not a few close watchers of the Socialist Labor party, who approve, in the abstract, the party's tactics, but who see the violence with which the party is attacked on the score of its close affiliation with the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance, question whether, on the whole, the organizing of the S. T. & L. A., and its endorsement by the party, does not do more harm than good. They reason that men who are not inherently

corrupt, but still are blind to the wisdom of the S. T. & L. A., could be more easily won over into our ranks by the party's not adopting tactics that throw such men into paroxysms of rage; and those that argue this way clinch their point by pointing out here and there a man, who, once considered a worthy member of the S. T. & L. A., has, through the party's affiliation with the S. T. & L. A., so far soured as to pull out, and virtually assume a posture of hostility.

The serious error that underlies this reasoning, rendered all the more dangerous by reason of its plausibility, would, in itself, justify consideration. The taking it up is, however, rendered all the more useful because it will help to illustrate principles that are basic in the movement.

A type of the men above referred to is Philip Bauer. The issue is made all around clear by examining it by the light shed upon it by this specimen.

Philip Bauer is a member of a New York bricklayers' union. The present President of that organization is the notorious Labor Fakir Klein, a heeler of the Democratic party, and of David B. Hill in particular. A firm attitude on the part of the Socialists in that union might or might not have overthrown Klein and purified the organization, but what such an attitude would certainly have resulted in would have been the earning of the ill-will of Klein and his fellows for the Socialist members. Klein and such other officers have the dispensing of favors in their power; no favors would or could flow from such hands to inconvenient Socialists. Now, then, not long ago, there was a "job" or favor to be bestowed. Someone of the union had to be sent on a mission to distant Milwaukee. It is not very essential to the point whether the mission was really necessary, or whether it was a mere pretext, of the many devised by the genus Klein, to "throw something in the way" of the faithful. The mission was there, and whether bona fide or otherwise it was a plum. On whom did Klein bestow that plum?—On Philip Bauer, who, at the time, was a member of the S. T. & L. A., and had been for some time.

Again, a member of Philip Bauer's organization was more recently very anxious to be elected delegate to a convention of his trade. The reason for his anxiety was that, as delegate, he had a better chance to advertise himself to the capitalist politicians and get a job that he coveted; in other words, he was anxious for an opportunity to traffic upon his organization. Philip Bauer admits these facts frankly, and—he frankly adds that, with full knowledge of these facts, he voted for that candidate, adding, furthermore, that, if the man did get the job he was after, it would do his (Bauer's) union good.

The specimen is complete. It is a basic principle with Socialism that material interests dominate the masses of men. It is a sequence of the principle of the class struggle that men will rank themselves on the side of this principle or that according as their interests direct. The man who sees his personal interests in the plumb of good graces of a Klein, the man who further sees his and his fellow union men's interests in the prostitution to capitalist purposes of a union's delegate to a convention—such a man belongs to a sub-division of a class that is radically at variance with the Socialist movement. The connection of such a man with the S. T. & L. A. has not for its purpose to inject Socialism into pure and simple, but to inject pure and simple into Socialism. The hostility of such a man is natural; and what is more—THE TACTICS THAT BRING HIS HOSTILITY OUT INTO THE OPEN, AND DRIVE THEM OUT OF THE S. T. & L. A., ARE THE RIGHT ONES.

It is not only in the camps of the several capitalist parties that a re-arrangement is going on to-day. As the Social Revolution approaches the jumping off place, class interests must assert themselves with increasing intensity. This process is useful to clear up the situation. It is a process to be welcomed; likewise, to be welcomed are the tactics that stimulate it. The organization of the S. T. & L. A. was a move in that sense; the party's decision to join hands with it was a further move in the same sense. Instinctively every one whose specialized class interests are hostile to the rock-bed class interests of the S. T. & L. A. must take alarm; the conduct of these and their final withdrawal can only be applauded.

The test of tactics, especially at this constructive period, is their effect upon the solidifying of the basic principles of the party, and their helping to set forth these principles with all the greater sharpness and clearness. While, temporarily, the process may cause disturbances, in the end it cannot but be beneficial.

The S. T. & L. A. is organized for battle; not to run away.

POLITICAL and ECONOMIC

The Burnside, Ky., "Free Lance," whose motto is:

"Rip 'em up the back,"

has these complimentary remarks:

"THE PEOPLE, the national organ of the Socialist Labor party, has reduced its subscription price to 50 cents a year; and will add enormously to its list of readers. Socialism, whatever the mass of our people may think about it, is growing rapidly in every civilized

country of the world, and the burning questions brought to the front by these agitators and thinkers must be answered, and answered soon. The schoolhouse is doing its work in making independent thinkers, who dare to question the 'divine right' of kings, whether on thrones in Europe or in American palaces built by fraud and the robbery of labor. In Germany the Socialist vote has increased upon an average of 15 per cent, for the last twenty years. In vain has that fossil by 'divine right,' the Emperor, imprisoned the brave thinkers who talked and wrote for justice. The Socialist element is so strong now it elects many officials in spite of all opposition, and has its members in the legislative halls. In Belgium the Socialist vote is twice that of all other parties; but the ancient monarchy still holds them down. In France it is claimed that one-third of the voters are Socialists. In America, especially in the cities and about the manufacturing and mining plants, Socialism is spreading like wildfire. If you want to keep posted; if you want to know what Socialism is; if you want to hear what the leaders of economic thought have to say; subscribe for their papers, and send for their papers, and send for their books; and THE PEOPLE of New York City is one of the best you can get."

The experience made here with "labor men" who are elected upon capitalist political platforms, is, as a matter of course, the experience made in England also, as appears from the following observations made by the London, Eng., "Labour Leader":

"When the Liberal-Labour M. P. gets to Westminster, and sits among gentlemen, he becomes ashamed of himself and of his class. He copies his 'betters' in their dress and manners, and is the tamest of lickspittles. The grossest ignorance does not disgust one as does this impudent servility. I swear and declare that the Liberal-Labour members in the present House of Commons are of no more parliamentary use to the class they are supposed to represent than would be an equal number of whipped and toothless poodles. This beastly farce of 'Labour' representation can be cloaked no longer. At the Day of Judgment, the devils in hell will rejoice and bless themselves that they are not three miles lower down, with Liberal-Labour M. P.'s."

And right it is! 'tis so. That member of the working class, who places himself upon a political platform of the capitalist class, is a man who believes in and holds to capitalism. He ascribes his poverty, not to the workings of capitalism, but to an "accident"; and he admires the capitalist so much that he seeks to ape after him. In short, such a man is wholly unconscious of his class interests and class mission.

The safety and dignity of the Labor Movement do not lie exclusively in men, whatever their class. They lie in the principles. The workingman, who is so blind to his own class interests that he works for the interests of the class opposed to him, is no better than the up-to-the-handle class-conscious capitalist who relentlessly pursues his own class interests. The rejuvenating social principle is the "Abolition of Wage-Slavery." The test of social virtue and intelligence is uncompromising adherence to that principle. All those who, whatever their class, stand uncompromisingly for that, and that alone, stand upon the class interests of the working class, and alone will be true. If they are workingmen, proletarians, then are they class-conscious; if they happen not to be proletarians, then their intellect has raised them above, and their rectitude has caused them to cast off their own class interests.

The recognition of the class interests of the working class, together with the consequent unswerving adherence to the tactics that such recognition implies, THAT, and not men, is THE point to keep in mind. This point firmly kept in mind, no surprise or disgust can be felt either in England or here, for the antics of either the labor men who cling to capitalist parties, or of the non-workingman elements that, bereft of both intellectual vigor or rectitude, squeeze themselves into the Labor movement, and seek to inject into it their own perverse and petty class interests or class tactics.

What must the condition be of that man's mind, who, taking up the Pittsburgh, Kans., "Pittsburg Kansan," reads this clause:

"Rather let Cuba and the Cubans sink to the bottom of the Gulf as a band fighting for freedom or as men dying for freedom, than have it and then survive through the further enslavement of the American people to the coupon clipper pirates;"

and then, having thus been taught that the boss slave-holder is the "coupon clipper," turns the page, and has his eyes alight upon this:

"The cause of poverty is landlordism!"

The only hope for the reader of such a paper is that he may come to the conclusion that, seeing it so palpably contradicts itself on the source of slavery, both its statements are false. Having dropped the two false notions that coupon clipping or the landlordism is the cause of the people's degradation, he may, if not tired out by wading through such economic blunders, finally alight upon the truth that the trouble lies with the capitalist system of production which puts in the hands of a small and idle class the nation's machinery of production, the nation's natural and social opportunities, and thereby dooms an increasing number of people to poverty and dependence.

The long advertised Labor Fakir O'Connell's plan to demand the eight-hour day for the machinists is abandoned. An official circular letter gives,

as the reason for abandoning the plan, the utter hopelessness of the struggle, as gathered from letters received. In commenting upon this official retreat, the Cleveland, O., "Citizen" incurs a serious lapse. It says:

"This bugle call sounding a retreat is not surprising. That the rank and file has become utterly indifferent is well known. It is the result of the lack of class-consciousness in the trade and the stubborn refusal of the officers, who ought to be educators and leaders of thought, to point out the rock-bottom principles upon which trade-unionism is based."

Whatever may be said of the CLASS-UNCONSCIOUSNESS of the rank and file, to which, no doubt, as indicated by the "Citizen," their attitude must be ascribed, one can not but admire the deep sense of CLASS-CONSCIOUSNESS of the officers in question. Their sublime class-consciousness is manifested by their "stubborn refusal to point out the rock-bottom principles of the labor movement." These pure and simple leaders are not proletarians. They constitute a special sub-division of the genus "Exploiter." Teach the rock-bottom principles of the labor movement to the rank and file, and what would happen? The rank and file would become intelligent; it would no longer have any use for lobbying committees nor for "Presidents," etc., to go about jollying the workers with false hopes. Having no longer any use for such officers, the rank and file would stop being fleeced of dues to keep these gentry in patent leather shoes, stove-pipe hats, rum, etc. These officers would then be deprived of their revenue and would have to go to work for a living. Now, then, for the same reason that the capitalist class-consciously opposes the education of the workers on the "rock-bottom principles of the labor movement," the O'Connells, Gomperses, McGuires, etc., class-consciously do the same.

In view of the numerous up-croppings of "Christian Socialism," engineered by the beneficiaries of Churchianity, the following from the London, Eng., "Justice" is timely:

"The line they will take will be to favor certain palliatives, and discount as much as possible those measures which have a Democratic tendency, or cause men to be critical in thought. Under the plea of tolerance their agents will always be trying to blast the fame of the independent leaders in the cause, and will continually play on the sentimental, or which is the same thing, the anarchical side of human nature. Dissension, under the plea of unity, will be its policy. With an ignorant proletariat and a crafty priestcraft there is, unfortunately, only too much scope for its evil influence. But it will fail. When the hour arrives Socialism will combat the machinations of the church, as it has combated all opponents, with courage and hope and the knowledge of certain victory."

The Rhode Island Comrades have certainly reason to congratulate themselves upon their late campaign. That their hammer-blow has told, and that the blow is still ringing appears from this article in the Boston, Mass., "Herald":

"A RHODE ISLAND FEATURE."

"It is stated that the Socialist Labor party vote increased largely in Rhode Island because of the cotton factory troubles. This is the nearest to being a feature in the late election in that State, if, indeed, it amounts to the dignity of importance. It is a movement made blindly. When labor men who feel aggrieved seek to start a new party, they take the most mistaken course possible in their own interests. They simply divide their votes in elections, and lose an influence that they may have. A shrewd course on their part would be to study the action of the other parties, and unite with the one which best promises to aid them. As politics in the United States are, it requires resources that labor has not at its command to make a new party successful. To vote with a new party is, therefore, to vote in the air, as the phrase is. Laboring men can express their disgust with existing parties by giving their votes for a new party, but when they do this, as practical action, they simply strengthen the parties to which they are opposed. These ask nothing better than to have the labor vote divided."

This sort of argument is among the things that the Rhode Island S. L. P. vote, and the increasing S. L. P. vote elsewhere, knocked, and is knocking on the head. The working class WILL unite, and it does not propose to give any capitalist political party the benefit of the unity. It will unite to a purpose.

It is quite in time, now that our warriors are being praised to the sky as paragons of bravery and reliability, that the Johnston, R. I., "Beacon" brings out this:

"Captain Sampson, in command of the naval squadron at Key West, is just the right man in the right place. His experience as inspector of armor plate during the Carnegie 'blow hole' incident, when defective armor became perfect under his inspection, amply qualifies him for the new position. Knowing the weak spot—those he winked at while inspector, he is certain to be more cautious than a less experienced man would be."

The Paterson, N. J., "Morning Call" seeks to deceive itself and its readers this wise:

"The 'passing of Maguire' means the death of the Socialist party in this city, and there is no doubt that was the real object of the Democratic machine."

Now, the "Call" knows very well that the S. L. P. vote increased in Paterson; and it has sense enough to know that the "passing of Maguire" can have but one effect, to spur the party to increased activity, and its elected candidates to increased revolutionary aggressiveness.

"COLONIES."

Two Thrilling Chapters from the Realm of Fiction.

NOTICE.—Read Chap. I. first, then Chap. II.; and then read Chap. I. over again.

CHAP. I.

[The Eden Land Colonization Scheme, from Charles Dickens' "Martin Chuzzlewit."]

"Then you think," said Martin to General, "that allowing for the hardships we are prepared to undergo, there is a reasonable—Heaven knows we don't expect much—a reasonable opening in this place?"

"A reasonable opening in Eden, sir! But see the agent, see the agent: SEE THE MAPS AND PLANS, sir; and conclude to go or stay, according to the nature of the settlement. Eden hadn't need to go a-begging yet, sir," remarked the General.

The General was one of a party at the public table next day, and after breakfast, suggested that they should wait upon the agent without loss of time. They, desiring nothing more, agreed; so off they all four started for the office of the Eden settlement, which was almost within rifle shot of the National Hotel. It was a small place, something like a turnpike. But a great deal of land can be got into a dicebox, and why may not a whole territory be bargained for in a shed. It was but a temporary office, too; for THE EDENERS WERE "GOING" TO BUILD A SUPERB ESTABLISHMENT FOR THE TRANS-ACTION OF THEIR BUSINESS, AND HAD ALREADY GOT SO FAR AS TO MARK OUT THE SITE.

"Heyday!" cried Martin, as his eye rested on a great plan which occupied one whole side of the office. Indeed, the office had little else in it, but some geological and botanical specimens, one or two rusty ledgers, a homely desk and a stool. "Heyday! what's that?"

"That's Eden," said Scadder, pointing at the map and picking his teeth with a sort of young bayonet that flew out of his knife when he touched a spring. "Why, I had no idea that it was a city."

"Hadden't you? Oh, it's a city." "A flourishing city, too! An architectural city! THERE WERE BANKS, CHURCHES, CATHEDRALS, MARKET PLACES, FACTORIES, HOTELS, STORES, MANSIONS, WHARVES, AN EXCHANGE, A THEATRE, PUBLIC BUILDINGS OF ALL KINDS—down to the office of the Eden 'Stinger,' a daily journal—, ALL FAITHFULLY DEPICTED IN THE VIEW BEFORE THEM."

"Dear me! It's really a most important place!" cried Martin, turning around. "Oh, it's very important," observed the agent.

At last they stopped. At Eden too. The waters of the Deluge might have left it but a week before, so choked with slime and matted growth was the swamp that bore that name.

There being no depth of water close in shore, they landed from the vessel's boat, with all their goods beside them. There were a few log-houses visible among the dark trees—the best a cowshed or a rude stable. But for the wharves, the market places, the public buildings!

"Here comes an Edener," said Mark. The man advanced toward them through the thickening gloom, very slowly, leaning on a stick. As he drew nearer they observed that he was pale and worn, and his anxious eyes were deeply sunken in his head. His dress of homespun blue hung about him in rags; his feet and head were bare.

He sat down on a stump half way and beckoned them to come to him. When they complied he laid his hand upon his side as if in pain, and while he fetched his breath, stared at them wondering.

"Strangers!" he exclaimed, as soon as he could speak.

"The very same," said Mark. "How are you, sir?"

"I've had the fever very bad," he answered faintly. "I haven't stood up right these many weeks. Those are your notions, I see," pointing to their property.

"Yes, sir," said Mark; "they are. You couldn't recommend us some one as would lend a hand to help carry them up to the—the town, could you, sir?"

"My eldest son would do it if he could," replied the man; "but to-day he has the chill upon him, and is lying wrapped up in the blankets. My youngest died last week."

"I'm sorry for it, governor, with all my heart," said Mark, shaking him by the hand. "Don't mind us. Come along with me and I'll give you an arm back. The goods are safe enough, sir," to Martin; "there ain't many people around to make away with them. What a comfort that is!"

"No," said the man. "You must look for such folk here," knocking his stick upon the ground, "or yonder in the bush, toward the north. We've buried most of them. The rest have gone away. Them that we have here don't come out at night."

CHAP. II.

[The Debs-Hinton Colonization Scheme.—Colonel Richard J. Hinton, President—, from the Chicago, Ill., "Social Democrat," of April 7, 1898, page 3, column 4.]

"Arrangements have been made to secure a large tract of land in which all the primal elements are present, and from which can be built up a higher order of civilization. . . . Our plans have already been laid down for the handling of this property."

"Our agricultural and pastoral stations, houses, barns, etc.,—HAVE BEEN DESIGNED AND LOCATED ON SUITABLE MAPS."

"Abattoirs, tanneries, shoe factories, woolen and cotton factories, ice houses, artificial ice plant, refrigerators, hotels and individual homes have all been likewise—INDICATED ON SUCH MAPS."

"Our coal, iron and steel industries, our machine shops, and in fact all the departments of manufacture in a complex civilization—HAVE BEEN LIKEWISE SO INDICATED."

"The location of a central town, with its schools and colleges—HAS ALSO BEEN SELECTED" (on the map).

[Now read Chap. I. over again.]



UNCLE SAM & BROTHER JONATHAN.

Uncle Sam—You look gay with all those American flag buttons on you. Is this your birthday you are celebrating?

Brother Jonathan—No; it ain't my birthday I am celebrating; I'm celebrating something much more important, I am.

U. S.—And what may that "something" be?

B. J.—That "Something" is nothing less than the evidence of solid patriotism that my country is displaying!

U. S.—And in what does that evidence consist?

B. J.—In what? Look around you. Don't you see high and low, rich and poor, capitalist and workmen, women and men, young and old—

U. S.—Good heavens, make it short!

B. J.—All are moved by one spirit—

U. S.—What spirit?

B. J.—The spirit of patriotism, and determination to wipe Spain out of Cuba.

U. S.—You are too green to burn.

B. J.—Isn't there a stupendous unanimity on this score?

U. S.—I don't see it.

B. J.—Then, man, you must be blind; why, everybody says: "Away with Spain!"

U. S.—That's why I say you are green. There may be unanimity in saying: "Away with Spain!"; but to consider the saying to mean patriotism is absurd.

B. J.—What else does it mean?

U. S.—It means, a war with Spain gives us a chance to make money.

B. J.—Pshaw!

U. S.—Let's see. Would a patriot help the enemy?

B. J.—Yes; to sink!

U. S.—But not to float, eh?

B. J.—Course not!

U. S.—Can Spanish warships float without coal?

B. J.—No.

U. S.—To furnish them with coal would be the act of friend or foe?

B. J.—Of foe.

U. S.—Patriots, American patriots wouldn't do that, would they?

B. J.—No.

U. S.—Of course not. Now, where are several Spanish warships coaling just now?

B. J.—I don't know.

U. S.—Didn't you read that they were coaling a Nova Scotia port?

B. J.—Yes; I remember now. But Nova Scotia is not American territory; it belongs to blasted England.

U. S.—Then you have forgotten that the bulk of the Nova Scotia coal mines are the property of American capitalists, eh?

B. J. (drops his jaw)—Why, that's so!

U. S.—Thus we have American "patriots" helping—for pay, of course, Spanish warships to float. How's that for patriotism, Greeney?

B. J.—That never occurred to me.

U. S.—Now that you are reminded, you may perceive that "War with Spain!" is not a cry that necessarily rises from patriotism; you may catch on that it may rise from a different feeling; that it may rise from the desire to sell and make money. And that is the case now. Without war, in the instance of coaling for one, there is not the demand for coal that there would be with war. When these American owners of Nova Scotia mines cry "War with Spain!" they, for one, mean: "A chance to sell our coal, though that may cause the death of our sailors in the war."

So it is all around: The papers want war, that means excitement, and more sales; and so forth. Mark you this (giving his ears a jerk): There is no such thing as patriotism in the heart of capitalism; "patriotism" is, with the capitalists, a swindle, and when workmen are caught by the trick, it is a case of ignorance with them, not patriotism. Poor devils, they will have to bleed.

THE WORKERS' PRAYER.

[From London, Eng., "Justice" by G. W. S. of Waltham Branch.]

"God of our fathers, known of old;
Lord of our far-flung battle line."
—The Hecatonst.

Thou, but by Whom we have and hold
Chisel, axe, anvil, loom and plough—
Worker, whose works are manifold—
Great Master-craftsman, hear us now
Who 'neath Thy firm directing hand
In serried ranks of Labor stand!

The fool of old said in his heart,
"There is no god"—and here, indeed,
With him this second fool takes part,
Whose god must fit his ghastly creed.
Such god of hosts, for slaughter met,
Let us forget, let us forget!

Fools in their folly gladden abroad
With greedy eyes o'er land and sea,
And, drunk with empire, pray to God
To point their maxim guns; but we
Who "raise the stone and cleave the wood"
Do surely know that "God is good."

Remember yet, dear God, the yoke
The wiles, begot of conscience' dread,
To make and keep us silly folk
Compelled to win our bitter bread
With many a kinsman's life-blood wet—
Remember yet, remember yet!

"God of our fathers" cry ye then?
"God of OUR fathers," cry we too,
God of the murderers of men—
God of the myriads whom they slew:
Match they their Serpent in the dust.

With Thee as bountiful as just!
Oh, not so blind, and not so daft,
And not so weak shall we uprise
When duly ripened in Thy Craft,
To strike this Evil 'twixt the eyes:
And then—Thy mercy round us

THE SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY AND THE PEOPLE.

The Socialist Labor Party is from its inception and from its very character an international party. But at the same time it has the tendency to take on more and more the shape of a national party, i. e., to become the party of the people, in the sense that it becomes more and more the representative, not of the wage-workers only, but of all the toiling and exploited strata of society, in other words, of the bulk of the population. The industrial proletariat steadily tends to become the only working class in society; the conditions under which the other working classes labor and live become more and more the same with those of the proletariat; finally, the working proletariat is the only working class that steadily grows in power, in intelligence, and in the consciousness of its destiny. By reason of all this, the working proletariat is the center around which the steadily vanishing portions of all other working classes are gathering; its thoughts and feelings become the standard of the thoughts and feelings of the "small man" himself.

In the measure as the leadership of the people thus goes over to the wage-working class, does its political party become the party of the people. Indeed, just so soon as the independent workers, engaged in small production, begin to feel as proletarians, just so soon as they recognize that they, or at least their children, are hopelessly doomed to drop into that class, and that there is no longer any hope for them except in the emancipation of the proletariat itself, just so soon are they bound to see in the Socialist Labor party the natural representative of their own interests.

The small producer has nothing to fear from the triumph of the Socialist Labor party; on the contrary, it is to his interest to promote that triumph; it betokens the introduction of such social conditions as will bring freedom from exploitation or oppression, together with the acquisition of well-being, and the certainty of a livelihood to all the toilers, not to the wage-workers among them only, but also to the independent toilers in the domain of small production.

But, furthermore, the Socialist Labor party does not represent the interests of the small producers in the FUTURE only. It represents them in MODERN SOCIETY as well. As the lowest layer of the exploited classes, the proletariat cannot free itself from exploitation and oppression. It, consequently, is the sworn enemy of all wrong, in whatever form such may manifest itself; it is the champion of all the exploited and oppressed. Numerous evidences can be adduced as proof of this fact. The occasion, for instance, for the establishment of the "International Organization of Workingmen" was a proclamation of the proletariat in favor of the uprising of the Poles to shake off the yoke of the Tsar; the first document which the "International" issued was a message of congratulation to Abraham Lincoln, expressive of its sympathy with the abolition of slavery; and, again, it was the organization of this very "International," located in England, and numbering Englishmen among its members, that took the part of the Irishmen, who were oppressed by the ruling class of England, and conducted most vigorously the agitation on their behalf. And yet, neither the Irish nor the Polish movement, not even the emancipation of the American slaves, affected directly the interests of the wage-working class. Instances of this sort, both of a national and international character, could be enumerated indefinitely.

The contention is occasionally heard that, seeing that Socialism builds upon the economic development, and that Socialist production is predicated upon the substitution of large for small production, the interests of the Socialist Labor party lie in the downfall of the small industrialist, farmer, and merchant, that it must, accordingly, promote the ruin of these, and cannot have their interests at heart. This reasoning is defective. The Socialist Labor party does not create the economic development; the overthrow of small by large production is carried on without its concurrence, the capitalist class is doing that work, and is doing it to perfection. True enough, the Socialist Labor party has no occasion to brace itself against this evolution; but to strike to check the economic development is just the reverse of laboring in the interest of the small producers and farmers. All efforts in that direction are bound to fail; in so far as they can be at all effective, they can only do harm, they can accomplish no manner of good. To hold out to the small industrialists and farmer schemes whereby their small concerns can be kept alive, is so far from promoting their interests, to do them positive injury; it is to hold the word of promise to their ears with impracticable plans, to mislead them from the path in which their true interests lie, and then expose them to the bitterness of the inevitable disappointment that must follow.

But, furthermore, although the downfall of small production is inevitable, it follows by no means that it must take place under all the horrible circumstances that to-day accompany that economic evolution. The process of the disappearance of small production is the last act of a long tragedy, the first acts of which are engaged with the slow and painful crushing down of the independent small producer. The Socialist Labor party, on the contrary, not only has the slightest interest in crushing down the small farmers and industrialists, but it has, on the contrary, the greatest interest in preventing such a consummation. The more crushed down and degraded those portions of the population are from which the proletariat must recruit its forces, all the harder will the work be of raising these recruits high enough to enable them to catch the inspiration of noble and manful efforts, and to feel prompted to join the ranks of the militant proletariat. It is upon the growth of this body, the militant proletariat, not upon the growth of the whole class of the proletariat, that both the growth and the strength of the Socialist Labor party depend. The deeper the depth of misery into which the farmer and other small producers may be steeped, the more these have become habituated to endless toil, all the more helpless and unfit for the resistance will they prove themselves, the moment they have sunk into the class of the proletariat, they will be all the more submissive to ex-

ploitation, and all the more will they injure the higher layers of the proletariat through their competition for work. Reasons similar to those that lead to the international solidarity of the workingmen, lead also to the solidarity of the proletariat with those classes from which its future recruits are to come; but this solidarity has hitherto, as a rule, been one-sided; it has proceeded from the proletariat alone.

As a matter of course, however, every time that the small farmers and industrialists try to keep their heads above water at the expense of the proletariat, by any of the many schemes which can redound only to the injury of the latter, they must expect to encounter the most vigorous opposition from the working class, and, accordingly, also from the Socialist Labor party. For the rest, and for the reasons mentioned above, the working class and the highest manifestation of its aspirations—the Socialist Labor party—not only does not begrudge, but positively favors all measures that would truly improve the condition of the small producer and lighten his burden. But such measures are not in the gift of the capitalist parties, they can, from the very nature of things, be in the gift of the working class only, of the ONLY anti-capitalist party—the Socialist Labor party. All propositions offered by ANY of the other, i. e., by ANY capitalist party in the land, without exception, aim, some sincerely, others insincerely, at improving the condition of the small producers, agricultural and industrial, AS PRODUCERS, while at the same time attempting to preserve their present and previous forms of industry. Such a course is hostile to the economic development; it is not only vain, but harmful. Equally vain is all hope or attempt, from whatever source it proceeds, to raise all these small producers, or even a perceptible portion of them, into the category of capitalists. The masses of the small producers could be helped only in their capacity of CONSUMERS.

To render aid in this direction, is directly in the interest of the Socialist Labor party. The better the condition of the small producers is rendered as consumers, the better their standing, and the higher their physical and mental wants, the clearer will be their vision, all the sooner will they quit attempting to lead on the contest against large production by means of "competition in starving," all the sooner will they give up the hopeless struggle, and all the sooner will they join hands with and strengthen the ranks of the proletariat. They would not then slip into the ranks of the humble, resistless and degraded strata of the population; they would join forth with the militant body of the proletariat that is conscious of its aims and its mission, and promote its triumph.

This triumph cannot spring from degradation, as many have imagined; it can spring from degraded small producers as little as from degraded proletarians. The Socialist Labor party has every interest in the world to prevent the degradation of the one as earnestly as that of the other. To strengthen its arm is, accordingly, in the interest, not of the wage-working class only, but of all those members of society who live on the sweat of their own brows and not on the exploitation of others.

The class of the small producers, farmers and industrialists, has never been able to defend its own interests against those of the large producing, or genuinely capitalist class. To-day it is still less able to hold its own. It cannot protect its interests without joining some other class. The instincts that large production raised within it, throw it steadily into the arms of some capitalist party or the other, that is to say, drive it into alliances with the various groups of the upper property-holding classes. The capitalist parties themselves seek to bring about such alliances—either out of political necessity, and then they simply consider the "small men," the same as they do the proletarians, as "voting cattle"; or as the result of deeper thought. They are well aware that the little private property in the instruments of labor, which the small producer still possesses, is the strongest bulwark of the whole system of private property in the machinery of production, and, consequently, of the system of exploitation, upon which they live. They care nothing, much as they may affect a contrary feeling, for the wellbeing of the "small man"; they care not how he may suffer, provided only his small industry, that fetters him in the hands of private property, is not wholly carried off. At the same time, all these parties are highly interested in the expansion, i. e., in the progress of the economic development. They are anxious, indeed, to preserve both the agricultural and the industrial small producer; they PROMISE him their aid; but IN POINT of fact they do all that in them lies to increase the rule of large production and to oppress the small agricultural and industrial producer.

But matters are wholly different with regard to the relations between the independent small producers and the Socialist Labor party. Unquestionably, the latter cannot set itself up as the defender of small producers; nevertheless small production has nothing to fear from the Socialist Labor party. It is the capitalists and large landholders, not the proletarians, who are steadily expropriating the small farmers and small industrialists. The triumph of the proletariat is the only means of putting an end to this expropriation. AS CONSUMERS, however, the interests of the independent workers in small production are identical with those of the proletarians. The small producers have, accordingly, every reason to join the Socialist Labor party when they seek to protect their interests.

The recognition of this fact will not be rapid; yet numerous are the signs that portend a stampede to the Socialist camp, led by the best and most belligerent elements, who drop their former weapons, not for the purpose of escaping the conflict, but who, tired of the petty strife for eking out a pitiable existence, determine to step boldly into that larger imposing arena where they will be able to struggle for the emancipation of our people, yea, of mankind itself, from the incubus of the present social system that threatens to engulf society, and to help us usher in that new social order in which every member of society shall be able to share in the great conquests of modern civilization.

The more unbearable the present system of production becomes; the more visibly its bankruptcy draws near; the more incompetent the ruling parties prove themselves to cope with and re-

move the shocking social ills; the more completely these parties reveal their imbecility, and shrink into cliques of politicians bent upon the promotion of their own interests only—the broader, and stronger will also be the stream that will flow into the camp of the Socialist Labor party from the non-proletarian classes, and, falling in line with the irresistible phalanx of the militant proletariat, help to carry its banner on to final victory.

OFFICIAL.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY.

NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—Secretary
Henry Kuhn, 184 William Street, N. Y.
NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary
Robert Bandlow, 193 Champlain St., Cleveland, O.

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

National Executive Committee.

The session of April 19th: A. S. Brown in the chair. Financial report for week ending April 18th: receipts, \$33.45; expenditures, \$68.36; deficit for the week, \$34.91.
Ohio State Committee sends call for State convention to be held in Columbus on May 24th.

Secretary instructed to call attention of Section Hudson County to some letters and articles which have appeared in hostile papers and were signed by a member of that section. Said letters and articles contained attacks upon the National Executive Committee, upon the party organ, upon other party members and organizations; and they take up the following for an outside hostile organization. The section is to be asked what they intend to do in the matter.

Charter granted for new section in Central Falls, R. I.

A Call to the Sections of the Socialist Labor Party.

In view of the approaching National Convention of the Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, and in accordance with the provisions of the party's constitution under Section 5 of Article IV, the Sections of the S. L. P. are hereby called upon to make nominations for delegates for an outside hostile organization. The section is to be asked what they intend to do in the matter.

The nominations made must be sent to the undersigned no later than Saturday, May 7, 1898, on which date the National Convention will be held in New York City. The names presented will be submitted to a general vote. The convention will be held in Philadelphia or Buffalo on July 1, or September 18. Exact date and place will be given before a vote is taken.

By order of the National Executive Committee, S. L. P.

HENRY KUHN, Sec'y.

May Day.

Final arrangements are now being made for the monster parade and mass-meeting on Saturday evening, April 30, on Union Square, to celebrate the Labor Day. Over 100 trade and labor organizations will participate in the parade which will start from the Labor Lyceum, 61 East 4th street, New York, at 7:45 P. M. Sharp and parade the following route: From 4th street and Bowery to 6th avenue, to Carmine, to Charlton, to Hudson streets, to 8th avenue, to 23d street, to Broadway, to Union Square. On arriving at the Square, the vast audience will be addressed from four platforms in the English, German and Jewish languages by prominent speakers of the Socialist Labor party. Letters have been received from similar arrangements in the city of New York and in other cities, stating that all the progressive trade and labor organizations in their respective counties have decided to come to New York and participate in the parade and mass-meeting. Everything points that this demonstration will outdo anything of its kind ever held in Greater New York.

L. ABELSON, Secretary.

California.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 12.—Last Thursday comrades W. Costley and F. M. Anthony started with a van well equipped for a tour of the State.

Canada.

MONTREAL, April 10.—Meeting of National Executive Committee on this date. Mr. Sanders in the chair. Sections Toronto and Montreal reported they had rescinded resolutions regarding lecture tour; it was getting too late in the season; resolved that on receipt of answer from Section London, concerning the above Comrade Saul and N. E. C. of U. S. be notified. Sub-committee appointed for the revision of the platform and constitution. A report was made and adopted. The same had been submitted to the sections for approval. Resolved, that as there are five comrades travelling various parts of three provinces, the committee be kept in frequent communication with these comrades with a view to the formation of new sections in other parts of the country. The N. E. C. had their attention drawn to the expediency and desirability of the means at the disposal of the officers for executing the work of the committee, resolved that proper supplies be procured and that the secretary draw up a circular letter for publication after receiving approval of N. E. C. Application for a charter for a new section at Hamilton, Ont., granted. Names of members elected on N. E. C. Comrades John Brennan, Morris Sanders, Ben. Sanders, and J. Kerrigan, F. Olson and John Clarke. Resolved, that THE PEOPLE be requested to publish in every issue the address of the National Secretary for Canada.

CANADIAN EXECUTIVE, S. L. P.
Secretary's address: George A. Moore, 61 Ryde street, Montreal, Canada.

Illinois.

BELLELEVILLE, April 18.—The S. L. P. in joint convention of Section Belleville, Ill., and Section East St. Louis, Ill., have just made the following nominations:
For Congressman—Gustav Surber, carpenter.
For State Legislator—Henry F. Zerwer, cooper.
For County Treasurer—Thomas R. Harris, moulder.
For County Clerk—D. M. Clegg, moulder.
For Sheriff—Ernest Heuer, coal miner.
For Superintendent of Schools—E. F. W. Buehner, machinist.
For County Judge—C. R. Davis, lawyer.

Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, April 10.—Whereas, The general vote in this State has decided to hold a State Convention of the S. L. P. on May 29, 1898, in the city of Indianapolis, therefore, by order of the State Committee, S. L. P. of Indiana:
The Indiana Sections and Branches of the S. L. P. are hereby notified that the State Convention will be held on May 29, in this city, at 2 p. m., at Columbus Hall. Each Section is entitled to three delegates. For particulars address

E. VIEUEGH.

308 Iowa street, Indianapolis, Ind.

Michigan.

DETROIT, April 18.—The Annual May Day of the international labor day celebration, arranged by Section Detroit, S. L. P., assisted by the Socialist Machinery, will be held at Finnette's Hall, on Saturday evening, April 24, 1898, with concert, ball and speaking. Tickets, 10 cents. Comrades, do not forget that it is your duty to help the cause along; sell all the tickets you can, bring your friends along.

Minnesota.

To the Readers of THE PEOPLE in St. Paul: Comrades—You are aware that we have a candidate for Mayor and several for Aldermen in the field. The time has come to do work. If we are to poll a big enough vote to become a recognized party we must put forth all our forces. We have now an opportunity to lay a good foundation. We have until the 3rd of May to work. We have meetings every Sunday at 3 P. M. Attend them and bring along all the workingmen you know.

J. HERTZ, Organizer.

New Jersey.

NEWARK, N. J.—This city last week polled 129 votes for our Mayor's candidate. Last spring we polled 340 votes, so comparing city election with city election, we gained 190 votes this year. Our city election day is not a legal holiday.

H. CARLESS.

THE DAILY PEOPLE

\$50,000 FUND.

Amount Pledged down to April 13th, 1898.

\$4,575.

Pledgers will please keep in mind the dates on which their payments fall due, as per printed list, and remit promptly. If any error appears on the list, correct with equal promptness.

THE DAILY PEOPLE COMMITTEE
184 William St., N. Y.

SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

—OF THE—

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

PLATFORM.

The Socialist Labor Party of the United States, in Convention assembled, re-affirms the inalienable right of all men to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

With the founders of the American republic we hold that the purpose of government is to secure every citizen in the enjoyment of this right; but in the light of our social conditions we hold, furthermore, that no such right can be exercised under a system of economic inequality, essentially destructive of life, of liberty and of happiness.

With the founders of this republic we hold that the true theory of politics is that the machinery of government must be owned and controlled by the whole people; but in the light of our industrial development we hold, furthermore, that the true theory of economics is that the machinery of production must likewise belong to the people in common.

To the obvious fact that our despotic system of economics is the direct opposite of our democratic system of politics, can plainly be traced the existence of a privileged class, the corruption of government by that class, the alienation of public property, public franchises and public functions to that class, and the abject dependence of the mightiest of nations upon that class.

Again, through the perversion of democracy to the ends of plutocracy, labor is robbed of the wealth which it alone produces, is denied the means of self-employment, and, by compulsory idleness in wage slavery, is even deprived of the necessities of life.

Human power and natural forces are thus wasted, that the plutocracy may rule.

Ignorance and misery, with all their concomitant evils, are perpetuated, that the people may be kept in bondage.

Science and invention are diverted from their humane purpose to the enslavement of women and children.

Against such a system the Socialist Labor Party once more enters its protest. Once more it reiterates its fundamental declaration that private property in the natural sources of production and in the instruments of labor is the obvious cause of all economic servitude and political dependence.

The time is fast coming, however, when, in the natural course of social evolution, this system, through the destructive action of its failures and crises on the one hand, and the constructive tendencies of its trusts and other capitalistic combinations on the other hand, shall have worked out its own downfall.

We, therefore, call upon the wage workers of the United States, and upon all other honest citizens, to organize under the banner of the Socialist Labor Party into a class-conscious body, aware of its rights and determined to conquer them by taking possession of the public powers; so that, held together by an indomitable spirit of solidarity under the most trying conditions of the present class struggle, we may put a summary end to that barbarous struggle by the abolition of classes, the restoration of the land and of all the means of production, transportation and distribution to the people as a collective body, and the substitution of the Co-operative Commonwealth for the present state of planless production, industrial war and social disorder; a commonwealth in which every worker shall have the free exercise and full benefit of his faculties, multiplied by all the modern factors of civilization.

RESOLUTIONS.

With a view to immediate improvement in the condition of labor we present the following demands:

1. Reduction in the hours of labor in proportion to the progress of production.
2. The United States to obtain possession of the mines, railroads, canals, telegraphs, telephones and all other means of public transportation and communication; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the Federal government and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.
3. The municipalities to obtain possession of the local railroads, ferries, water works, gas works, electric plants and all industries requiring municipal franchises; the employees to operate the same co-operatively under control of the municipal administration and to elect their own superior officers, but no employee shall be discharged for political reasons.
4. The public lands to be declared inalienable, Revocation of all land grants to corporations or individuals, the conditions of which have not been complied with.
5. The United States to have the exclusive right to issue money.
6. Congressional legislation providing for the scientific management of forests and waterways, and prohibiting the waste of the natural resources of the country.
7. Inventions to be free to all; the inventors to be remunerated by the nation.
8. Progressive income tax and tax on inheritances; the smaller incomes to be exempt.
9. School education of all children under fourteen years of age to be compulsory, gratuitous and accessible to all by public assistance in meals, clothing, books, etc., where necessary.
10. Repeal of all pauper, tramp, conspiracy and sumptuary laws. Unabridged right of combination.
11. Prohibition of the employment of children of school age and the employment of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality. Abolition of the convict labor contract system.
12. Employment of the unemployed by the public authorities (county, city, state and nation).
13. All wages to be paid in lawful money of the United States. Equalization of woman's wages with those of men where equal service is performed.
14. Laws for the protection of life and limb in all occupations, and an efficient employers' liability law.
15. The people to have the right to propose laws and to vote upon all measures of importance, according to the referendum principle.
16. Abolition of the veto power of the Executive (national, state and municipal), wherever it exists.
17. Abolition of the United States Senate and all upper legislative chambers.
18. Municipal self-government.
19. Direct vote and secret ballots in all elections. Universal and equal right of suffrage without regard to color, creed or sex. Election days to be legal holidays. The principle of proportional representation to be introduced.
20. All public officers to be subject to recall by their respective constituencies.
21. Uniform civil and criminal law throughout the United States. Administration of justice to be free of charge. Abolition of capital punishment.

New York.

TO THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING COMRADES OF THE 32d ASSEMBLY DISTRICT.

All the English-speaking members of the Thirty-second Assembly District are requested to communicate with the undersigned for the purpose of organizing an English-speaking Branch of the District. It is time that we should take hold and do some practical work in our district. Fraternally,
L. A. MALKIEL.

BROOKLYN.—A meeting to organize an English-speaking Branch of the S. L. P. in the Sixteenth Ward of Brooklyn will be held on Monday, April 25th, 8 P. M., at Irving Hall, 429 Broadway, Brooklyn.

BROOKLYN.—There was an excellent attendance at the 2d meeting of the recently formed 9th A. D. (English-Socialist) Club, held at Clark's Hall, on the 18th inst. The speaker, A. S. Brown, gave a most instructive and interesting lecture. Comrade Brown explained the evils of the present capitalistic system, their cause and cure. He also made some remarks on the results of war in times of "peace" supporting a mob of soldiers for no other purpose than to keep himself in subjection, and in times of "war" rushing madly to the front, to bleed, perhaps to die, for "the honor of my country."

In the discussion one man asked if we should not "take revenge on the Spanish for the 'murder' of the sailors of the Maine, and was answered by Comrade Brown, who advised him, if he was so anxious to avenge "murdered men," to bend all his energies toward the extension of the S. L. P. and in their triumph to take revenge upon the capitalist class for the death of the MURDERED MILLIONS, basely done to death in our ("2") country in times of so-called "peace"; in sweatshops, on railroads, everywhere.

The next meeting will be held on May 2nd, at 8 p. m., in the same place, Clark's Hall, North-west corner Eighth Avenue and Twenty-fifth street, second floor. The lecturer will be Comrade Teche, and the subject "China and Capitalism."

Ohio.

Cleveland, April 12, 1898.
To all Sections S. L. P. in Ohio:
Greeting.—The State Convention will be held in Columbus, May 29th, as the result of the vote just taken. The Sections are requested to elect their delegates and inform this Committee thereof. Every Section or Branch entitled to three delegates, and each Section should be represented, so the convention may be a great success. Section Columbus has been requested to make arrangements as to hall, etc. You will be informed later as to location of hall. Convention will open at 10 a. m. Comrade B. F. Kuhn will tour Ohio

Trades and Societies Calendar.

Standing advertisements of Trades Unions and other Societies (not exceeding five lines) will be inserted under this heading heretofore at the rate of \$5.00 per annum.

Organizations should not lose such an opportunity of advertising their places of meetings.

Carl Sahn Club (Musicians Union). Meetings every Tuesday at 10 a. m., 44 East 4th street, New York Labor Lyceum. Business Secretary: Frel.

Central Labor Federation of New York (S. T. & L. A. D. No. 1). Meetings at 1227 avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m. District I (German), at 215 Forsyth street, New York City. All bona-fide trade and labor Unions should be represented. Communications are to be sent to the corresponding Secretary, Ernest Bohm, 64 East 4th street, New York City.

Cigar-makers' Progressive International Union No. 90. Office and Employment Bureau: 61 East 4th street, District I (German), 324 East 71st street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District II (German), at 215 Forsyth street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District III, meets at 1227 avenue A, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—District IV, meets at 343 West 4th street, every Saturday at 8 p. m.—The Board of Supervisors meets every Tuesday at 1222 2nd avenue, at 8 p. m.

Empire City Lodge (Machinists), meets every 2d and 4th Wednesday evening at the Labor Lyceum, 64 East 4th street. Secretary: PETER STAPLE.

German Waiters' Union of New York. Office: 333 Bway, Union Hall. Meetings every Friday at 8 p. m. Board of Supervisors meets every Wednesday at 4 p. m. at the same hall.

Musical Protective Alliance No. 1088. D. A. 48, S. T. & L. A., Headquarters, 79 E. 4th street. Meetings every Friday at 10 o'clock noon. Fred Hartmann, Pres.; Fred Wall, corr. Sec'y, 79 E. 4th St. S. J. Krings, Business agent.

Metal Spinners Union of New York and Vicinity meets every second and last Friday in the month at 8 1/2 o'clock at 231-233 E. 33d Street.

Section Essex County, S. L. P., meets the first Sunday in each month at 2 p. m. in the hall of "Essex County Socialist Club," 71 Springville Ave., Newark, N. J.

Scandinavian Section, S. L. P. Meets 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month at 10 o'clock a. m., at Teutonia Assembly Rooms, 120 Broadway, New York City. Subscription orders taken for the Scandinavian Socialist Weekly, SCAND. AM ARBEIDAREN.

Socialist Science Club, S. L. P., 34th St. S. T. & L. A. D. Cor. of 3d Ave. and 10th St. Open every evening. Regular business meeting every Friday.

Progressive Clothing Cutters & Trimmers Union, L. A. 68 of S. T. & L. A.—Headquarters, 61 East 4th street, Labor Lyceum.—Regular meeting every Thursday evening, at 8 P. M.

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For addresses of the BRANCH-BOOKKEEPERS see "Vorwärts."

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works with Typo Setting Machines German and English.

commencing about May 1st and ending at the State Convention. Sections should contribute to the agitation fund for the summer campaign.

With Socialist greetings. P. C. CHRISTENSEN, Sec'y State Committee.

Rhode Island. PROVIDENCE.—There will be a meeting of the Speakers' Club in Textile Hall, on Monday, May 2, at 8 p. m., for the purpose of making arrangements for the summer campaign. The following members are hereby requested to attend: Chas. Kroll, Thomas Donahoe, James McGuire, Ed. Theinert, Hurley, Ernest Sherwood, James Reid, Franklin Burton, Dowling, Thos. Curran, John Thornton, T. F. Muldowney, Lawrence Lee, John Kirgion, James Gannon; also all those comrades (especially those who own wheels) who are willing to help in the distribution of literature.

It is of the utmost importance that all should attend. A. McDONALD, Sec'y Speakers' Club.